

Just a plink away:

Poly students regularly attend game show, 5

On air: Men's basketball to be broadcast live, 12**High: 56° / Low: 37°**For extended weather forecast, see **Daily Dose**, 2

Thursday, February 8, 2001

Mustang

DAILY

Volume LXV, Number 81, 1916-2001

Investigator testifies in Krebs case

By Janelle Foskett

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Superior Court Judge Barry LaBarbera excluded the public from the Rex Allan Krebs pretrial hearings Wednesday for San Luis Obispo District Attorney Investigator Larry Hobson's testimony about a particular conversation he had with the defendant. The conversation took place the day before a search warrant was issued to search Krebs' residence.

LaBarbera said having this testimony open to the public could cause a prejudice against Krebs, thus limiting his right to a fair trial.

Hobson was one of four witnesses called to the stand as the defense and district attorneys argued over the admissibility of testimony to the trial, scheduled to begin Feb. 14 in Monterey.

Pretrial activities began on Feb. 1 and will end today.

Krebs is charged with kidnapping, raping and murdering 20-year-old Aundria Crawford and 20-year-old Rachel Newhouse. He has pleaded not guilty to the charges, and he faces the death penalty if convicted.

Hobson has been working on the investigation into the murders of the two women since Krebs was first questioned by investigators in March 1999. At the request of Deputy District Attorney Tim Covello, Hobson testified to three different occasions in which he spoke with Krebs.

Hobson first interviewed Krebs on March 21, 1999, when Krebs was in custody for parole violations and was a suspect in the disappearance of the two women.

In the interview, Hobson asked Krebs about the eight-ball key chain found at his residence, but Hobson did not tell Krebs the relevance of the key chain to the investigation.

Investigators had previously identified an eight-ball key chain to be missing from Crawford's residence.

After this interview, Hobson said he decided to tape record phone calls from Krebs' jail cell between him and his girlfriend at the time. His girlfriend complied, and Krebs was recorded twice on March 24 and once on March 25. The content of these phone calls was not discussed in court.

On April 1, 1999, Hobson interviewed Krebs again and asked him to take a polygraph examination. Hobson said Krebs agreed after about thirty minutes of persuasion.

Hobson said he advised Krebs of his miranda rights prior to the polygraph exam, Krebs signed a statement waiving those rights and signed a consent-to-interview form.

see **KREBS**, page 2

E-I-E-I-Oink



COLLIN HESTER/MUSTANG DAILY

Left, piglets born this week fight for space to nurse on their mother. Above, Michael Schilperoort, an animal science senior, holds one of the newborn piglets on display for visitors to the swine unit to get a better look. A few more sows were due to give birth this week. Some were given shots Wednesday afternoon to induce labor.

ASI delays alcohol vote second time

By Adrenna Benjamin

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Another Board of Directors meeting has gone by and Associated Students, Inc. has still not been able to decide which resolution to submit to the San Luis Obispo City Council for the proposed alcohol ordinance.

The alcohol ordinance, which was proposed by the City Council, states that it is unlawful for any person to have a party at his or her place of residence with more than five minors present with alcohol or consuming alcohol. If more than three minors are drinking alcohol, the host of the party may be cited. This ordinance, if passed, will cite the host of the party for furnishing alcohol to minors.

The Board of Directors is trying to decide between two resolutions to present to the City Council on Feb. 15. The resolutions, which oppose the alcohol ordinance, have been discussed and changed since the beginning of the year.

The original resolution brought

see **ALCOHOL**, page 3

Oil cleanups, Avila, dunes subjects of symposium

By Byron Samayoa

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The use of plants to clean up oil spills will be the emphasis of this year's Bioremediation Symposium. Bioremediation is the use of bacteria and plants to break down chemicals that are dangerous or harmful. Today's symposium will be the second held at Cal Poly.

The symposium is intended to be educational for students and the community. Because local problem areas such as Avila Beach and the Guadalupe Dunes have been of great public interest, these discussions will inform people about what is being done to the area, said Catherine Smith, research assistant for Cal Poly's Environmental Biotechnology Institute (EBI).

What makes this method so unique is that it is eco-friendly and doesn't add to the landfills.

The symposium, which is sponsored by UNOCAL, California State University Program for Education and Research in Biotechnology (CSUPERB) and Cal Poly, is a gathering of experts in the field of habitat repair

see **SYMPOSIUM**, page 3

Costco one step closer to SLO



AMY LOBSINGER/MUSTANG DAILY

By Jon Hughes

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

After a blockbuster decision by the City Council Tuesday night, the path is clear for Costco to set up shop in San Luis Obispo.

The Council voted 3-2 against an ordinance that proposed size limitations for stores like Costco. The ordinance had passed an initial hearing in a Jan. 16 vote, but was reversed when Mayor Allen Settle changed

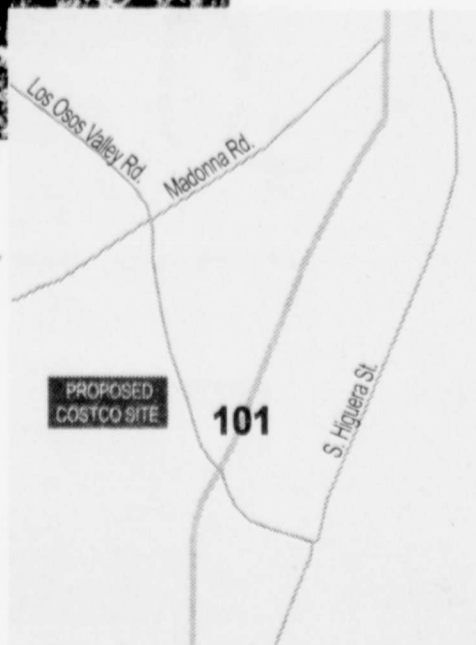
his stance and voted against the law.

The vote effectively announces the impending arrival of a new Costco store to San Luis Obispo. The store will likely be a part of Alex Madonna's Froom Ranch development, which will be located on Los Osos Valley Road.

The decision came on the evening of the day Settle announced a compromise between the city and Costco

see **COSTCO**, page 2

The site of the proposed Costco is on Los Osos Valley Road across from the row of car dealerships, just off Highway 101. Mayor Allen Settle said he expects the Costco to be built in the next 12 to 14 months.



ADAM JARMAN/MUSTANG DAILY

daily dose

TODAY'S SUN

Rise: 6:56 a.m. / Set: 5:39 p.m.

TODAY'S MOON

Rise: 6:25 p.m. / Set: 7:28 a.m.

TODAY'S TIDE

AT PORT SAN LUIS

Low: 3:16 a.m. / 1.82 feet
High: 9:23 a.m. / 6.82 feet
Low: 4:30 p.m. / -1.56 feet
High: 11:02 p.m. / 4.59 feet

5-DAY FORECAST



THURSDAY

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FRIDAY

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SATURDAY

High: 57° / Low: 40°



SUNDAY

High: 56° / Low: 39°



MONDAY

High: 58° / Low: 39°

Mustang Daily ...

So, we like agriculture.

COSTCO

continued from page 1

that proposed a scaled down version of the store. The Council's vote to reject the ordinance that evening made the compromise irrelevant.

Councilman Ken Schwartz voted against the ordinance.

"I just think it was a bad ordinance," Schwartz said. "It was not supported by the business community. They saw it as an intrusion on competition. We as a government should not step in and regulate free enterprise."

He also explained that the first vote on Jan. 16 was only an initial vote to see if the Council wanted to go ahead with it. In the meantime, there had been a lot of public input and the negotiations between the mayor and Costco. The vote on Tuesday was the "final passage," not necessarily a reversal.

Settle used as the rationale for his new decision the fact that there are no other "big-box" stores the size of Costco attempting to move to San Luis Obispo, making an ordinance barring them unnecessary. Additionally, he said, some of the county's supervisors said they might revoke their own ordinances if San Luis Obispo approved one.

"I could have said yes to the ordinance, but Costco would have moved right out of the city and built a larger store there," Settle said. "Costco would be built either way. I would rather have it in the city than the county."

He also said that having the Costco here would keep tax revenues from Costco sales in the city, rather than going elsewhere in the county.

"The county said, 'If the city doesn't want them, we'll be happy to take the

sales taxes,'" Settle said.

Settle further explained that the ordinance had several weaknesses. One problem, he said, was that the ordinance probably wouldn't stand up under law if Madonna decided to litigate.

The news that Costco will likely be coming to town is music to the ears of many Cal Poly students who have grown tired of the trek to Santa Maria, the current location of the closest Costco store.

Interestingly, Paso Robles rescinded a similar size-limit ordinance Tuesday, also.

Nick Wiegand, a construction management junior, said he is looking forward to Costco's arrival.

"It'll be way more convenient than going to Santa Maria," he said. "It won't be like planning a day trip just to go shopping."

Some students at Cal Poly, however, have mixed feelings about Costco's arrival.

"When I first moved to San Luis Obispo, it was really cool because there were a lot of smaller businesses run by the community members," said Amy Rogers, a kinesiology senior. "If you bring Costco in, it's going to change the whole atmosphere of the town. It's not going to be a small town anymore."

Ed Surber, an electrical engineering senior, said he sees parallels between the possible effect of Costco on San Luis Obispo and the current situation in Paso Robles.

"Paso used to be a really small town and now it has all these big-box stores," he said. "It's starting to not have that small town charm anymore, and I think if they allow these big wholesale stores in San Luis, it's going to turn into that."

KREBS

continued from page 1

Hobson testified that approximately 10 minutes into the polygraph exam, the FBI agent administering the exam cautioned Krebs to stop holding his breath because it was affecting the validity of the exam. At this point, Krebs began taking off the attachments, thus terminating the exam.

Hobson said that, aside from taking a polygraph, Krebs volunteered his assistance in the case, even offering to go to the crime scene at Crawford's house. He said that since he was once convicted of rape, he may be able to offer insight into the type of person investigators should look for.

On April 21, 1999, Hobson spoke with Krebs for the third time, and their conversation was videotaped. Hobson said he reminded Krebs of his miranda rights. The transcript of the conversation and the video itself were admitted as evidence.

Hobson then testified that after this final interview, he drove Krebs from the San Luis Obispo Police Department back to the San Luis Obispo County Jail. At this point, LaBarbera excluded the public from the hearing. He said that if further testimony concerning the April 21 conversation between Hobson and Krebs were opened to the public, it could create prejudice against the defendant.

It was on April 22, 1999, that a search warrant was issued to search

Krebs' residence.

In Defense Attorney Jim Maguire's cross-examination of Hobson, Maguire focused on whether or not Hobson advised Krebs of his miranda rights in each interview. Maguire pointed out that Hobson only "reminded" Krebs of his rights in most of their conversations.

By showing that investigators possibly overlooked the specific procedures involved in advising Krebs of his miranda rights, defense attorneys will try to have the testimony of Hobson's conversations with Krebs excluded from the trial.

Three other witnesses testified to their investigation of Krebs in June 1987 concerning a burglary and attempted sexual assault, for which he was arrested.

LaBarbera made no ruling regarding the admissibility of Hobson's or the other three witness's testimony.

Cal Poly student Rachel Newhouse was last seen on Nov. 13, 1998 at Tortilla Flats around 12:15 a.m. She was reported missing at 6 p.m. later that day.

Cuesta College student Aundria Crawford was reported missing on March 12, 1999. Her mother had reported her missing after Crawford did not respond to numerous phone calls or pages.

The bodies of both students were found on April 23, 1999 near Krebs' residence.

Pretrial hearings continue today in Superior Court department 10 at 9 a.m. Jury selection is scheduled to begin in Monterey next week.

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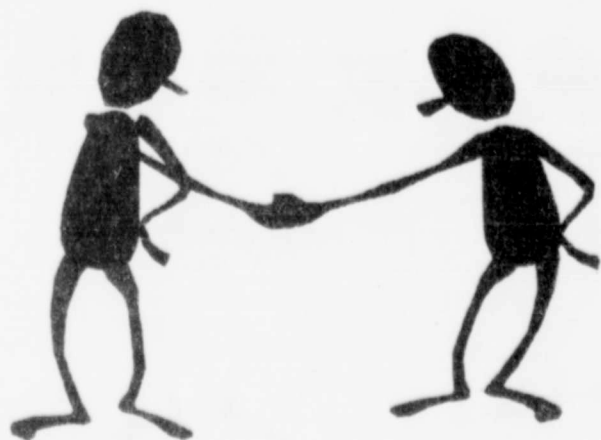
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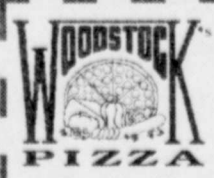
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Gunman shot, wounded near White House

ALCOHOL

continued from page 1

WASHINGTON (AP) — A middle-aged accountant with a history of mental illness fired several shots outside the White House Wednesday and then was shot by the Secret Service as he waved his handgun menacingly, authorities said. The tense, noontime standoff sent tourists running for cover.

The drama unfolded just outside the fence at the edge of the South Lawn, 200 yards from the building where President Bush was inside exercising.

The man, wounded in the knee and hospitalized under guard, was identified by law enforcement sources as Robert W. Pickett, 47, from Evansville, Ind. He had been fired by the Internal Revenue Service in the mid 1980s, and neighbors said he kept to himself, resented the IRS and was obsessed with West Point, where he had dropped out after a semester in 1972. Pickett had acknowledged in court records suffering from mental illness and trying to commit suicide.

Bush, working out in the White House residence, was alerted by Secret Service agents "but understood that he was not in any danger," spokesman Ari Fleischer said. First lady Laura Bush was in Texas. Vice President Dick Cheney was working in his White House office.

The shooting was the latest in a string of security scares that have brought tighter protection for U.S. presidents. In 1995, then-President Clinton ordered Pennsylvania Avenue closed in front of the White House following the Oklahoma City bombing.

Earlier that year, a man was shot on the White House lawn after scaling a fence with an unloaded gun.

The latest incident, on a sunny, springlike day, triggered a tight security clampdown. Tourists were evacuated from White House rooms, and police in riot gear took up positions around the executive mansion and beyond its gates.

Dan Halpert, a tourist from Queens, N.Y., was on the National Mall nearby, when officers told him to get down and clear out.

"We were all running away. It was scary," said Halpert, 24.

The confrontation occurred on E Street where tourists gather along the White House fence to snap photos of the executive mansion and hope for a glimpse of Bush jogging on the track encircling the South Lawn. There is an unobstructed view from the fence to the mansion.

Secret Service officers on patrol in a car "heard shots fired and proceeded to surround a subject who was wielding a weapon, a gun," White House spokesman Fleischer said. A 10-minute standoff ensued in which witnesses said they heard officers try to persuade the man to put the gun down.

"It doesn't have to be this way, put the gun down," one witness recalled police warning the suspect. "He was waving it in the air — it was pointed at the White House at one point — and pointing it in all directions," said Park Police spokesman Rob MacLean. At another point the man placed the gun in his mouth, MacLean said.

Pickett was shot in the right knee by a member of the Secret Service's Emergency Response Team when he "raised the gun again and started aiming it at people," a Secret Service source said, talking on condition of anonymity. The officer fired from inside the White House compound, through the wrought-iron fence.

A five-shot, .38-caliber handgun and shell casings were recovered at the scene, a Secret Service official said. Evansville police detective Alan Brack

Pickett's home for four hours, looking for weapons, threatening letters or evidence of militia group involvement. The agents carried out computer equipment and five brown grocery bags. No firearms were found, said police Detective Alan Brack.

Before entering, officers from the Evansville police bomb squad scouted outside for booby traps or bombs.

Two law enforcement officials said police were investigating correspondence from Pickett, including a letter

to the IRS, and others that express anger or frustration with Bush and the Republican Party.

Stephen Pickett
gunman's brother

The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said

they did not consider the notes a threat to Bush though they acknowledged that others might interpret them that way.

Pickett had no criminal record and was not listed in Secret Service files as a potential threat to the president, authorities said. He lived alone in a modest, two-story house that had been owned by his parents before their deaths.

The shooting adds a new dynamic to an already heated debate over whether to reopen Pennsylvania Avenue, on the other side of the White House. Clinton followed the Secret Service's warnings about security threats in closing the famed street, but businessmen and city officials have pressed to have the decision reversed.

"We are glad no innocent people were hurt. ... We hope that he gets the help that he needs."

said the gun was traced to a local gun dealer. Pickett was taken to George Washington University Hospital, five blocks away, where he was in serious condition after two hours of surgery to remove the bullet. He also was to undergo psychological evaluation.

Dr. Yolanda Haywood, associate professor of emergency medicine, said that when he was brought to the hospital he was silent, unusually calm for someone with a bullet wound.

A brother, Stephen Pickett of Sleepy Hollow, Ill., expressed regret.

"We are glad no innocent people were hurt. We've been estranged from Robert for several years now. We hope that he gets the help that he needs."

In Evansville, agents of the Secret Service and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms searched

before the Board of Directors states that the host should be the only one cited for providing alcohol to minors. The second resolution states that the host and the underage drinker should both be cited.

Wednesday night's meeting split the Board of Directors, with some representatives arguing for the original resolution and other representatives supporting the rewritten resolution. Representatives supporting the original resolution believe that it does not endorse what the student body wants, and that responsibility for minor alcohol consumption should fall solely on the host. Representatives supporting the amended resolution believe that both the host of the party and the minor consuming alcohol should be cited. The Board could not decide on a motion and postponed the decision to next Wednesday's meeting.

Samuel Aborne, ASI president, encouraged the Board to make a decision on one of the two resolutions to present to the City Council before next Thursday. Most of the representatives wanted legal advice before addressing the Council, and want to decide unanimously on which resolution to bring forward. The Board will revisit this issue at next Wednesday's meeting when it will decide which resolution to present to the City Council.

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SYMPOSIUM

continued from page 1

through chemical breakdown. The symposium is part of the campus Centennial Celebration happening this year. Scientists from Europe and the United States will attend the symposium, including those from Germany, Canada and South Carolina.

"The symposium will be a place where scientists will be able to exchange ideas and learn about other research being done in the field," said Alice Hamrick, a research assistant for EBI.

The symposium will be a three-day event held in Chumash Auditorium. It will begin with the lecture "Biotechnology: Past and Present," given by Dr. Patrick J. Scannon, founder of the biotech firm XOMA Ltd. Cal Poly students and members of the community are welcome to attend the opening speech, which will take place today from 4:10 to 5:30 p.m.

Lectures will be given Friday on the

different methods currently used in bioremediation. The morning discussion will focus on the specifics of phytoremediation habitat restoration. Phytoremediation is a method of using plants, such as cottonwood trees, to absorb oils from contaminated soil. In the afternoon, topics will include more established methods of breaking down chlorinated chemicals by using different methods of engineering.

The lectures will end with European methods of chemical breakdown. Each lecture will be 30 to 40 minutes and will include a question-and-answer period. Friday's lectures will only be open to Cal Poly students, faculty and staff.

The symposium will end with a field trip on Saturday to the Guadalupe oil fields, a site that has been using bioremediation to clean the oil spill caused by many years of drilling.

For more information, or a complete schedule of events, contact EBI at 756-2749 or the symposium's Web site at www.ebi.calpoly.edu/ebi/symposium.

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Bush tax plan benefits rich, basically sucks

It seems few Democrats in Washington, D.C., or even here in San Luis Obispo, are willing to break the ice and start cracking away at the fabulous and oh-so-wonderful George W. Bush. Is it the so-called honeymoon every new president enjoys? Not likely. It is more likely that Democrats, and even extreme right-wing Republicans, are afraid to fire the first real shot at the Bush Administration for fear of falling off the alleged Bipartisan Bandwagon. But I, your not-so-humble-columnist, will not tow the line and keep my mouth shut over Bush's latest light bulb – the tax cut.

Before I continue, let me say that taxes suck. I am the first to admit it, and I don't like paying them anymore than Steve Forbes or Donald Trump. However, tax revenues serve a significant purpose in America. No one seems to complain when Federal Emergency Management Agency delivers millions of federal dollars to disaster areas around the country. And lips seemed sealed when the federal government gives billions to states to

Eddie Drake build and repair the highways we all drive on. These sorts of projects are funded by your federal tax dollars, and these are the taxes Bush is planning to cut. What Bush ignores in his plan is that the real tax burden facing American working families is payroll taxes and not federal taxes. Allow me to explain.

Payroll taxes are what fund, for the most part, Medicare and Social Security. Eighty percent of Americans pay more for these two programs than they do in other federal and state taxes. Look at your next paycheck and you'll see what I am talking about. Easily summarized, GW's plan aims to significantly benefit only the 20 percent of American people who pay more in federal taxes than payroll taxes. His plan will eliminate the highest tax bracket (39 percent) and only shave a few points off lower brackets – the ones most of your parents are in. What sense is it to only benefit such a small number of people? Oh wait, of course, he's a Republican! Now it makes sense. Silly me.

You know Al Gore may have been more boring than Bingo at the senior center on a Saturday night, but the guy had it right when he told America of Bush's priorities. In this tax proposal, Bush is proving Gore to be a modern day prophet. Bush's plan will most directly benefit the exceedingly wealthy and only marginally benefit the working class Americans who need the most tax relief. The facts are clear.

Now detractors will make the argument that since the wealthiest people in America pay the most taxes, they should get the biggest break. Apparently our feeble-minded president agrees. But let me ask them this – where would those wealthy people be if it weren't for the working class labor force of America? Would their products sell if a blue collar stiff didn't make it on the assembly line? Look at the source of the wealth in America, my friends. Don't have pity for the coffers it flows in to.

Having said all that, what is the real solution for the tax burden American citizens are facing? The best answer is to streamline Social Security and Medicare by launching an aggressive campaign against the fraud and corruption that have plagued these two systems for years. Democrats in Congress want to do just that. Once that is complete, Bush can again sit down with his big-button Fisher-Price "My First Calculator," and maybe he will have the sense to propose a tax cut that will truly benefit working America.

Eddie Drake is a political science senior.



Bike friendly town

New e-saint is a wholly bad idea

There is a "Saint of Those Suffering from Nervous and Mental Afflictions," a "Saint of Brewers and Breweries," even a "Saint of Journalists."

According to the Catholic religion, there are more than 1,000 patron saints with titles ranging anywhere from the familiar "Saint of Lovers" (St. Valentine) to the rather peculiar aforementioned designations.

However, the latest saint to be nominated for appendage to this eclectic group of

Commentary humans may cause people to question whether the pope has gone off the deep end.

The Vatican announced Tuesday that Pope John Paul II is considering naming St. Isidore of Seville the "Patron Saint of Internet Users."

Apparently, St. Isidore, who lived in the 17th century, is believed to have written the world's first encyclopedia, "The Etymologies," which included entries on medicine, mathematics, history and theology. Thus, the pope presumes that this man is somehow responsible for the creation of today's information superhighway and, therefore, should divinely oversee the trials and tribulations of Internet users.

I question then, should the pre-historic human that drew the first pictorial image on a cave wall be deemed the "Saint of Motion Pictures"? Of course not. Yet this example is analogous to the pope's line of thinking.

Though I do not doubt that Isidore was a brilliant and pious man completely dedicat-

ed to knowledge and education, regarding him as a saint of the Internet seems a bit far-fetched for a number of reasons.

First, although no one would argue that the World Wide Web does contain a tremendous amount of information geared for retrieval just like an encyclopedia, the majority of its users do not log on for educational purposes.

According to a study from the Global Internet Statistics Web site, only 7.4 percent of people use the Internet for educational reasons, while a substantial 47.9 percent log on for commercial purposes. Global Internet Statistics also proclaims the No. 1 commercial Web site as Cybererotica.com, which receives approximately 1.6 million hits per day.

If the pope is basing his decision on the fact that an encyclopedia and the Internet are basically one and the same, perhaps he should reconsider his assessment.

Furthermore, the Vatican Web site claims that saints are often chosen because an interest, talent or event in their lives overlaps with a certain aspect of life. Francis of Assisi loved nature, so he became the "Patron Saint of Ecologists." Francis de Sales was a talented writer, so he became the "Patron Saint of Journalists."

Following this criteria, wouldn't Isidore be more appropriately dubbed the patron saint of scholars or educators?

This curious nomination becomes even more peculiar considering that the pope has expressed wariness about the ever-expanding influence of the world's media.

In an article from the CNN Web site, the pope denounced today's media, saying that

they are "indifferent or even hostile to Christian faith and morality with an ambivalence for the truth."

Perhaps with the recommendation of Isidore for sainthood, he hopes to save our civilization from the evils of expanding online media.

Whether this nomination will pass depends on a decision by the Holy See, which rejected the pope's nomination of Isidore two years ago. If he does become the "Patron Saint of Internet Users," however, at least we'll have someone to pray to when our browser is down or our e-mail won't work.

Erica Tower is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

Letter policy

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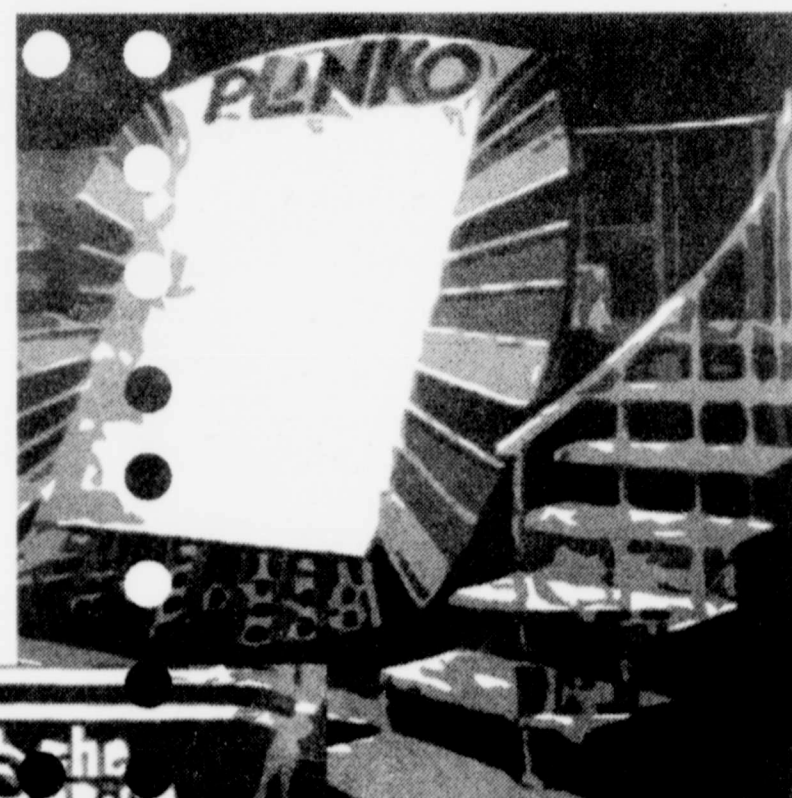
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"Do you have any staplers?" "I have some tape and some gum."

arts & entertainment



By Janelle Foscett
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Blake Edwards stood at the podium anxiously anticipating Bob Barker's next words.

There was a \$2,000 difference between his bid and the actual price of his showcase. Now he waited to hear if his opponent's \$12,000 bid would be closer to his own showcase price.

"And the actual retail price is \$17,000," Barker exclaimed.

Edwards instantly darted out of the camera's view and ran to where 22 other Cal Poly students were storming the stage.

On Dec. 11, graphic communications sophomore Blake Edwards won the biggest game show standoff of them all: "The Price is Right" Showcase Showdown.

Edwards is not the only Cal Poly student to have conquered "The Price is Right," the longest-running game show in television history. Andrew Jones, agricultural business junior, won his showcase in March 1999. He won a trip to Finland, a home gym, an electric golf cart and a cuckoo clock.

"The Price is Right" premiered on CBS in 1972 and Bob Barker has been the host since the first day of taping. The show is famous for its 65 unique games that test everything from a player's golf skills to his or her ability to price household goods.

Contestants are chosen from the studio audience on the day of taping. The show's producers welcome large groups — perfect for college students looking for a fun outing.

For groups of 20 to 25 people, Audience Coordinator Kim Funaro recommends looking into getting tickets about two months in advance to the taping date.

"The sooner the better," she said. "It's a popular show, and it starts filling up quickly."

Edwards started organizing a trip with about 22 residents from his dorm two months prior to the taping.

Jones decided at the last minute to go with a group of 15 people from his Santa Lucia dorm.

Many people have heard the rumor that "The Price is Right" will guarantee one person from a large group to be one of the nine contestants. However, Funaro said, this is not true.

"Everybody in the audience is a potential contestant," she said. "There is no guarantee."

For general admission, there are two ways students can obtain tickets to a taping, said Aaron Zoher, a studio page.

First, students can write to "The Price is Right" for tickets. This needs to be completed at least four to six weeks before the taping date requested. Tickets are sent out one month before taping.

Second, starting one week before the taping date, students can go to the CBS ticket window. The window is at the studio in Los Angeles where the show is taped.

Admission to the show is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Therefore, even though people may have tickets, they need to get in line early on the day of taping, Funaro said.

CBS pages start numbering tickets at 7:30 a.m. on the day of taping, so Funaro suggests arriving well before this time.

Although people may think the contestants are chosen randomly, the producers of the show actually determine ahead of time who the nine contestants will be through an interview process. Each person (of the approximately 300-person audience) is interviewed before taping.

Producer Phillip Wayne Rossi said he stresses to people to be themselves in the interview.

"We won't pick you if we think you're performing — that's not natural," he said. "But we are looking for the nine people who are most ready to have a good time."

see PRICE, page 7

Poly Students come on down!

Quality easy to spot in Coens' 'O Brother, Where Art Thou?'

By Jon Hughes
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

In a current cinematic landscape that is greatly lacking for quality movies, the Coen brothers should be appreciated. The brothers, Joel and Ethan, are among the handful of filmmakers in the industry today who can be counted on to consistently produce intelligent and ambitious, if not always successful, movies.

"Raising Arizona," one of their earliest films, was an offbeat success. "Fargo," their masterpiece, put them squarely in the mainstream and garnered them multiple Oscar nominations, including one for Best Picture. Even "The Big Lebowski," a hilarious but downright odd film that went largely unnoticed at the box office, has developed a cult following since its video release.

Their latest, "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" is similarly interesting and quirky. True to Coen form, viewers are introduced to odd characters placed in very bizarre situations.

Set up as a Southern-style take on Homer's "The Odyssey," the film follows the rambling exploits of three escapees from a 1930s Mississippi chain gang, Ulysses Everett McGill, (George Clooney), Pete (Coen regular John Turturro) and Delmar (Tim Blake Nelson). The three set out to get their hands on a buried cache of gold, hidden previously by McGill and about to be lost forever under a flood of water.

Along the way, the men cut a hit record as the Soggy Bottom Boys, have a hilarious run-in with legendary bank-robber "Baby Face" Nelson, and generally fumble from one exploit to the next.

In keeping with the "Odyssey" theme, they also encounter the Sirens (who are every bit as dangerous as they are in the novel) and a psychotic Cyclops of sorts, played by John Goodman.

Music has always been an important element in the Coen brothers' films, but it has never been used as much, or as effectively, as it is in "Brother." In many ways, the music drives the film, and scenes don't feel finished until the first few twangs of Southern bluegrass are heard. The atmosphere created by the music (masterfully arranged by bluesman T-Bone Burnett) is almost tangible, transporting the viewer to the South



John Turturro, Tim Blake Nelson and George Clooney star in the Coen brothers' newest release 'O Brother, Where Art Thou?'

with vivid and perfectly placed tunes. Most everything in "Brother" is well placed and effective. It is a very light-hearted movie, and the Coen brothers don't try to incorporate too much dark humor, as they have in previous films. The soothing tunes and gorgeously filmed landscapes dictate a different type of approach than the Coens' previous fare, and it is a credit to them that they are able to adapt rather than forcing the film into familiar territory.

The film is also helped by solid performances all around. Clooney is given the most work as McGill, the leader of the escapees, and he succeeds by playing squarely against type. He gets downright goofy with the role,

hamming it up as he obsesses over his treasured hair grease and shimmies while performing as lead singer of the Soggy Bottom Boys. His Southern accent needs a bit of work, but his demeanor is perfect for the role.

"O Brother, Where Art Thou?" ultimately feels like a Coen brothers movie, but it is also an admirable stretch. The result of their experiment is not only a very good movie, but evidence that originality in modern film still exists.

movie review

3.5 out of 4

COURTESY PHOTOS

Drew vs. Drew: Everclear ... Is everything wonderful?

Everclear, Songs From an American Movie, Vol. I and Vol. II

Drew P.: Gee, Everclear has been busy this past year.

Drew S.: And boy, have they!

Drew P.: Shut up. No more lip out of you. This is a good band we're talking about here, and I'm just trying to give them respect. Can we just have one column where I don't have to put up with this? Huh?

Drew S.: No, because I'm the one who came up with the idea for this column. We play by my rules. Everclear? More like Neverclear. Every song's exactly the same: same riff, same beat. It's like a broken record.

Drew P.: I disagree. Every song is not the same — the whole idea behind the band releasing two albums this past year is to show variety. Vol. I is the poppy side of Everclear, catchy sing-a-long songs and mellow string arrangements while Vol. II sounds more like their now-classic Sparkle and Fade album from 1994: loud and aggressive, but catchy, post-grunge.

Drew S.: Why not just release a double-album? Bad marketing call. It's not like they have the biggest following. Plus the singles from these two albums haven't exactly blown me away. Anyone heard "AM Radio?"

Drew P.: I have. It sucks, I'll give you that much. But a few of the other songs on Vol. I are actually okay: "Thrift Store Chair," "Otis Redding" and the huge hit "Wonderful." But it's safe to say the band's strength is with the louder material on Vol. II.

Drew S.: The lyrics and the music are interchangeable. Listen to "Everything to Everyone," an older

Everclear song, and "Wonderful," and tell me they're not the same song.

Drew P.: Ouch, you got me there! I just don't have anything else to say to that one. Whew! I'm speechless

Drew S.: And another thing ...

Drew P.: It was a joke, man. Of course

I have something to say. Did you even listen to these albums? They're polar opposites. I have to admit, the two-album concept isn't exactly setting any sales records. Everclear isn't exactly selling like hotcakes now, are they? But this is a great band, and

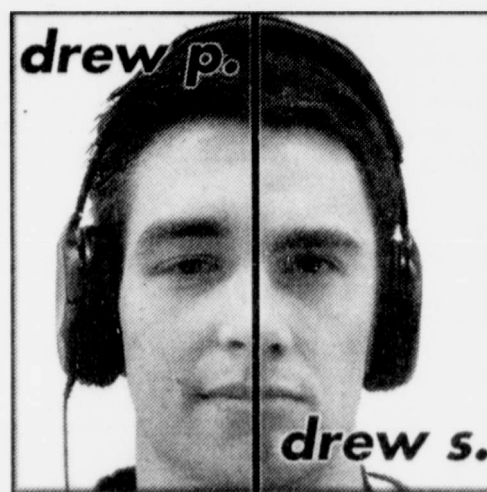
you shouldn't determine how good an album is by how much it sells.

Drew S.: I think lead singer Art Alexakis is in love with himself. Every song is about his troubled past, or about something negative in his personal life. What about the drummer? Doesn't he have any problems? You never know, he could be going through a real tough time right now.

Drew P.: Dude, ease up. The drummer's gonna be all right, I promise. One of the things people like about Everclear is the honesty in the lyrics. He's singing about things that have obviously had a big impact on him. And their loud songs have always had a crunchy sound that I really like. Vol. I is kind of mediocre, but people should buy Vol. II.

Drew S.: People should just listen to them on the radio instead. A few decent hits, but I have to change the station after hearing it a few times. Everything's not wonderful, Drew, everything's not wonderful.

Andrew Parker is a journalism sophomore and Andrew Salituri is an art and design sophomore. Contact them at drewvsdrew@hotmail.com



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For more information contact Dick Simon, Chair of Humanities at rsimon@calpoly.edu

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Applications due MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2001, at 5 p.m., in the Main Housing Office, Building 29.

PRICE

continued from page 5

Rossi also stressed speaking up and not wearing costumes.

In his interview, Edwards told producers about his major at Cal Poly. He spoke about being a resident adviser in his dorm and the difficult task of keeping everyone under control.

"I was well-spoken and didn't act nervous," he said. Edwards also attributes being picked to some girls in his group mentioning his name when the producers asked who organized the trip.

On the other hand, Jones doesn't know why producers might have picked him.

"Everyone's answers were really drawn out, so I did the opposite of that," he said. "I just said that I play football at Cal Poly, and I like to have fun."

The show does not tell people ahead of time that they are going to be contestants, so once taping began, neither Jones nor Edwards expected to be called to "come on down!"

"I was so surprised," Jones said. "It all happened so quick that I didn't have time to think about it."

Edwards said he didn't even hear the announcer call his name. Instead, he saw his name written on a large poster board that someone was holding up.

"I was so shocked and I jumped up," he said. "It didn't seem real."

Once contestants are called down, they bid on the price of an item. The person closest to the actual price gets to play one of "The Price is Right's" famous games for more prizes. When Edwards won a round of bidding, he had to play the game "Checkout." The object of the game is to guess the total price of six store items and be within one dollar of the actual total price. He did not win the game.

On his show, Jones played "Penny Ante," in which he had to guess the prices of two products from a total of eight prices. He won the game and a trip to Finland.

Then came the spinning of the giant price wheel in which the three contestants thus far spin a wheel marked with numbers from 5 cents to \$1. Whoever spins the highest number goes to the

Showcase Showdown. There are two spins during the show, which determines the two contestants who will be in the showdown at the end.

Edwards spun \$1, the best spin possible, and it won him \$1,000.

On his show, Jones spun 95 cents, and no one in his group was able to beat it.

Both students made it to the Showcase Showdown on their respective taping days. The showdown consists of the two final contestants bidding on a set of items, called a showcase. The person closest to the total actual retail price of his or her showcase wins the show.

Edwards was only \$2,000 off of his showcase, whereas his opponent was off by \$5,000. When Edwards realized he had beaten his opponent in the Showcase Showdown, he ran off to greet his friends, who had rushed the stage. Looking back, Edwards wishes he hadn't run off so quickly.

"I would have stood there longer," he said, "and I would have jumped around more and been more animated for the camera."

Edwards left the show having won a set of lamps, a DVD player, a computer and ski boat.

In Jones's Showcase Showdown, he was only \$700 off of the actual price. His opponent bid over the amount of his showcase - an automatic loss. When Jones won, his group rushed the stage as well, and they all went to check out the golf cart he had just won.

"It didn't hit me until the ride home," he said. "I just realized that I had won 'The Price is Right.'"

"The Price is Right" may be a fun way to spend the day, but the prospect of winning lots of money and prizes is attractive - especially to broke college students. The biggest winner of cash and prizes was a student from Pepperdine College who won \$86,865 worth of prizes, including a Lincoln and a Porsche.

Students interested in reserving tickets to "The Price is Right" should send a self-addressed stamped envelope, with a note specifying the requested date of taping. The mailing address is The Price is Right, CBS Television City, 7800 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036.

SLOFOLKS to present the 'premier banjo madman'

By Evann Gastaldo
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Students who enjoy the bluegrass-jazz musical style of Bela Fleck might want to check out banjo player Tony Trischka, who will play at three Central Coast venues this weekend.

Trischka, who was called "the premier banjo madman of our time" by the Edmonton Journal, traditionally weaves a history of the banjo throughout his show.

"The history of the banjo is really fascinating," he said. "It's the history of America, seen through the eyes of the banjo."

This weekend, for Black History Month, he will parallel the history of the banjo with the history of various ethnicities in this country, said Jody Ramsland, coordinator of the San Luis Obispo Folk Music Society (SLOFOLKS), who booked Trischka.

"I think this is a better way to learn about history than just talking about wars," Ramsland said. "You can get a better idea of what was going on and how people interacted."

"What I'm trying to do is bring out the roots of the banjo and accentuate that in the show," Trischka said.

The banjo, an American instrument, has roots in Africa. Trischka will begin his show with an African tune that was played on the gourd banza, one of the banjo's African predecessors.

Trischka will also play two pieces that are associated with slaves, he said. These pieces, which he said have definite African origins, will be played on a replica of an 1840s banjo.

He will also play minstrel music from the 1800s, turn of the century parlor music and music made famous in the 1920s and



COURTESY PHOTO/TONY TRISCHKA

Banjoist Tony Trischka brings his own musical style and experience to the Central Coast this weekend.

'30s by such famous banjo players as Gus Cannon and Elizabeth Cotton. Throughout the show, the audience will get to hear the music and learn where it came from.

"He talks about how the banjo has evolved, the different influences on it and how it's been used," Ramsland said.

"I try to tie it all together," Trischka said.

"I hope students will come to get a new perspective on history, a more cultural view of history," Ramsland said. "I hope they come to broaden their horizons and enjoy good music."

Trischka has been playing the banjo for 38 years, ever since he heard the Kingston Trio, a 1960s folk group.

"There was a banjo solo in one of their songs," he said. "It got me really excited, and I just had to learn how to play."

He has been playing ever since, even becoming Bela Fleck's banjo teacher when Fleck was about 16,

Trischka said. At the time, Trischka was playing very progressive banjo music that interested Fleck.

In the 1990s, Trischka decided to move on.

"Instead of going forward, I decided to go back and see where the banjo had come from," he said. Since then he has been playing more historical banjo music. He describes his style as mostly bluegrass.

"I play a lot of different things, but at the root of it all is bluegrass," he said.

Trischka will play 7 p.m. Friday at the Coalesce Bookstore in Morro Bay, 7:30 p.m. Saturday at the Castoro Cellars Winery in Templeton and 4 p.m. Sunday at Linnaea's Café in San Luis Obispo. Admission is \$10 for any show, and tickets are available in advance at each venue except Linnaea's. For advance tickets to Trischka's appearance at Linnaea's, call Ramsland at 544-1885. Remaining tickets will be available at the door.

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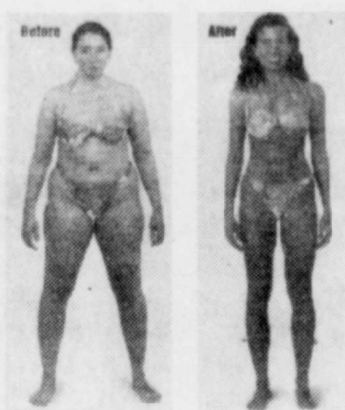
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Berlin Choir's tour debuts at PAC



COURTESY PHOTO/BERLIN RADIO CHOIR

The Berlin Radio Choir is a musical institution in classical style. The PAC performance will debut the group's North American tour.

By Erica Tower
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Their historical endurance is as celebrated as their music, and Cal Poly is lucky enough to have them for one night only.

The Berlin Radio Choir, one of the world's major institutions of classical music, will perform live Feb. 15 at 8 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center (PAC). The performance is part of the choir's North American debut tour, which highlights its 75th anniversary.

"It's very rare to have a full-time professional choral group of this size," said Ralph Hoskins, director of Cal Poly Arts. "Most American choirs are

amateurs, but this is not the case with the Berlin Radio Choir. They are a superb organization."

Founded in 1920, when radio was first popularized in Germany, the 60-plus voice choir is a partner to many respected orchestras in Europe. Its musical array includes great choral symphonic works, folksongs and contemporary music, which can be heard daily on German airwaves.

"Unlike most choirs, this group sings everyday on the radio," Hoskins said. "When you have that kind of pressure and discipline, you simply become the best."

The conductor is as highly regarded as the choir itself.

Robin Gritton, who joined the choir in 1994 and trained at the Royal College of Music in London as a pianist, organist, cellist and singer before joining the group, has also conducted for many prominent orchestras in Europe, including the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam.

For the performance at the PAC, Gritton will lead the choir in a classical program, which feature selections from Robert Schumann, Johannes Brahms, Richard Strauss, Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy and Max Reger.

"The university is very lucky," Hoskins said. "Cal Poly is only one of three stops on the West Coast for the Berlin choir."

In conjunction with the concert, professor of music Tom Davies, will also give a pre-concert lecture at 7 p.m. in the Phillips Recital Hall. He will address the pieces that will be performed, as well as give background information about the choir itself, Davies said.

Tickets for the performance, which is dedicated to the memory of local arts patron Gladys Fiske and co-presented by KCBX FM 90.1, range from \$26 to \$38 with student discounts available. They may be purchased from the Performing Arts Ticket Office. To order by phone, call SLO-ARTS(756-2787); by fax, call 756-6088.

Academia satirized in 'Lecturer'

By Shannon O'Sullivan
MICHIGAN DAILY

(U-WIRE) ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Imagine the University of Michigan fishbowl as a meeting room for religious knights, rather than the diverse body of students which pass through it on a daily basis. Or think of Sate Street as the town society of Medieval times. James Hynes does so, in his newly released satire on academia, "The Lecturer's Tale." Set at a fictional Midwestern university, many of the character's commentaries could possibly be heard all throughout the realms of Ann Arbor, where most of the society is affiliated with Ann Arbor in one way or another.

With a cast of characters who are all immediately connected with university life, Hynes targets the self-importance of many scholars who are encompassed in academic life. Adding to his comic effects, Hynes uses the language of literature, focusing on theory, criticism and critical issues to further develop the politics of the university. Characters such as the Irish impersonating poet and the professor who opts not to write a dissertation bring humor from all angles.

"The Lecturer's Tale" is Hynes' second novel, his first being, "Publish and Perish."

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Be Part of It

Surveillance protects football fans from terrorists

Every fan who entered Raymond James Stadium for the Super Bowl two weeks ago paid a lot of money to watch the biggest sporting event of the year.

Commentary

They battled traffic to find a parking space, stood in long lines to enter the stadium and made their way to their designated seats. Every fan was there for one thing: to watch a football game. They were not there to worry about their wallet getting stolen or think about a possible terrorist attack.

So Tampa Bay police decided to protect all the Super Bowl fans by installing bio-metric anti-crime surveillance equipment. Cameras scanned all fans as they passed

through the turnstiles, comparing their features to the images in a computer database. The video system uses bio-metric technology to compare facial features such as the size of a nose, the shape of a jaw or the set of a brow. Graphco Technologies Inc. provided the police department with the equipment. The test equipment compared images from the video cameras to a small FBI and police database of about 1,700 faces, including crooks from pickpockets to domestic terrorists.

If I were a Super Bowl fan, or anyone who was going to a large public event, I would feel safe knowing the crowd was being scanned for criminals. Even if the

technology isn't 100 percent accurate, it's better than nothing at all.

But the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) is demanding that Tampa city officials hold public hearings about the "privacy-invading" technology. Civil libertarians say that the surveillance has raised serious questions about the constitutional right of fans to freedom from "unreasonable searches and seizures."

This is utterly ridiculous. If you go get money out of an ATM, there is a camera watching you. If you go to 7-11 to buy some snacks, a camera is watching you. Pretty much any store or public place you walk into today will have some sort of video equipment recording your every move. This new video sur-

veillance isn't any different. It looks for criminals to keep the public safe.

The system is less intrusive than many other forms of video surveillance. Whereas bank cameras will record you and store the images, the record on the new cameras is erased every couple of seconds.

These new security cameras seem safer and allow more freedom for regular civilians. If the face is matched from the camera to the database, the criminal can be apprehended long before they are able to commit a crime. Even if the computer matches someone incorrectly, I would much rather be falsely accused, or have somebody else be falsely accused, than to have a criminal running around.

Police hope to have an even larger database of criminals set up in the near future. This means tens of thousands of lawbreakers won't be able to enter large public places without the chance of getting caught. I would bet most people would feel safer with these cameras in place instead of feeling like they were having one of their constitutional amendments taken away.

The ACLU should really look at what it's saying before it takes action. Instead of reacting immediately to anything new and different, it should look at the benefits new technology has to offer.

Larissa Van Beurden is a journalism junior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

Letters to the editor

Pro wrestlers are model athletes Editor,

Dan Davitt's column on wrestling is off the mark ("Society decays with wrestlers as role models," Feb. 6). He claims that wrestlers are poor role models for today's youth and we should "just turn it off." Mr. Davitt never brings to light that parents are ultimately responsible for the viewing habits and behavior of their children.

Wrestling on television has shown responsibility with younger viewers in mind. The WWF and WCW (which Davitt ignores altogether) air main shows at nighttime (WWF at 9 p.m. on Mondays) with a TV-14 rating. The other wrestling shows during weekend daytime carry a lesser rating and edit out questionable material.

As for wrestlers being poor role models, I also disagree. While Davitt sees them as violent and disrespectful, pro wrestling still follows an age-old theme: good triumphs over evil. While Stone Cold Steve Austin's character likes to drink beer and use questionable language, he sets an example by coming back from adversity (a real-life, severe neck injury) and not letting obstacles get in the way of his goals. Booker T. also shows us that hard work and persistence will ultimately pay off in your life-long goal.

As for the treatment of women, Davitt also takes a high road approach. Female performers in the pro wrestling business are allowed to show their freedom of expression. While it is true that women are used as eye candy, they take that opportunity to become superstars in their own right (examples being Lita and Chyna).

When looking at sports role models, who can be better role models than pro wrestlers? There are no real-life murderers in the WWF, like there are in the NFL; no real-life wife beaters, as there are in the NBA and baseball. No wrestlers have been in the headlines allegedly raping 17-year-old girls after prom parties.

Pro wrestling is not real violence. In fact, it is comparable to

other prime-time TV shows. If society and kids start emulating what they see in the ring, shouldn't responsibility be on the parents?

A recent court case in Florida seems to think so. A 12-year-old boy was convicted of murder when he killed a 6-year-old playmate. The jury did not buy the excuse that he was just imitating what he saw wrestlers do on television.

Mr. Davitt insults all of our intelligence by backhandedly saying wrestling is bad, even though "he had a little fun" at a wrestling event. Perhaps Mr. Davitt should include the positives of pro wrestling in society, rather than sound like a member of the Right to Censor.

David Taub is an assistant Sports Information director.

Be able to separate love and romance Editor,

In response to Cameron Eidmann's questions ("Getting ready for Valentine's Day," Feb. 6), here is a thought for him to ponder over. "Love is a wonderful thing," and I can identify with the need for romance in a relationship, but love is not based on romance. Perhaps that is why people get divorced and break up. Is it really love when you break up with your significant other when the romance dies and the magic vanishes?

We as a society are infatuated with our knight in shining armor and the fairy tale, happily ever after scenario. The thing is, we live in a real world, not a fairy tale land. So the next time you break up because there is no "excitement" in the relationship, get a reality check before you let go of the person you could spend your life with because true love goes deeper than that delicious romantic topping that everyone craves.

The notion of finding a soul mate to "complete me" is utterly ridiculous. Why can't you complete yourself? He/she is so charming, fantastically dreamy, so smart, so strong, and funny - he/she completes me. Do think again. Do not hold on to your significant other because she completes you,

because what happens when the relationship fails? Do you then go and find someone else to "complete you?" Shouldn't you be with the person that you can depend on but not necessarily lean on because you are strong and charming yourself?

Even with these interdependent perspectives on real love, I can also be just another sentimental schoolgirl falling head over heels for that "boy next door" and experience that familiar butterfly feeling. However, I embrace a different solid ideal of true love, and different meanings of true love are defined by each individual, so do have a happy Valentine's Day.

Thanh Lu is an electrical engineering senior.

Club discrimination reveals intolerance Editor,

Do clubs representing "unpopular" viewpoints face a disproportionate amount of intolerance and discrimination? From recent letters to the editor, and from the past experiences of clubs such as GLBU, it would appear that the answer to these questions is a resounding "yes."

Both Christopher Weber's criticism ("Absurd accusations don't help cause," Feb. 6) and Ken Virzi's empathy ("We've had our signs stolen, too," Feb. 6) with Mr. Feldt's outcry regarding the theft of his club's sandwich board ("Sign theft reveals intolerant nature," Feb. 2) validate, in divergent fashions, how intolerance is a mainstay of the socio-political atmosphere of our campus.

Mr. Virzi seems empathetic to the discrimination faced by Mr. Feldt's club (citing instances of defacement and theft to his own club's property). In doing so he displays many pure "Christian qualities" such as altruism and humbleness. His conciliatory tone ("it seems we have a lot more in common than anyone would have ever guessed") is also a fitting expression of "consistent" Christian ideals. I commend him on this.

Christopher Weber's letter, on the other hand, smells of inconsistency and intolerance from the get-go. Having read Mr. Feldt's article about the plight of his club (United Socialists & Anarchists), I feel that Chris Weber's critique is

either an over-reaction based on personally interjected meanings not inherent in the original article, or, worse still, another example of how intolerance of "minority viewpoints" (whether they be political, religious, or based on one's sexual orientation) can quickly rear its ugly head.

Christopher states that Jason Feldt "obviously has a bone to pick with Christians" and that Feldt's statements reflect "absurd accusations and hypocritical ideological bashing". It might just be me, but neither I, nor Ken Virzi (representing a prominent Christian club on campus) seemed to have interpreted it that way.

It may be the case that Christopher Weber considers himself a Christian, and thus, feels "wronged" by what he perceived as being "absurd accusations". If this is the case he should genuinely try to "turn the other cheek". Either way, the hostile tone of his letter may ironically validate Jason Feldt's original "absurd accusation" that intolerance is, indeed, alive and well at Cal Poly.

Justin Smith is a political science junior.

Racism rears its ugly head in subtle ways Editor,

Taco Bell is a strange place to be hanging out at 1:30 am on Sunday. It is full of rowdy college kids, many probably drunk, anxiously waiting for their processed food. Being the sober driver on a night out can be very entertaining, so I settled into a booth and watched the drama going on around me.

Some girls came in and cut in front of the whole line, beer in hands, and the line grew more restless. A guy spilled his full soda onto a bench seat, then hurried out the door with his friends. The couple next to me was about to take their relationship to the next level, maybe inspired by the chaos around them. I thought this was the flavor of people watching I was going to get until I went to refill my soda.

A group of well-dressed, college-aged white people were sitting near the soda fountain, which is also where people wait to pick up their orders. Actually most of the patrons were college-aged white people (including myself), but this

particular group was all of the very clean-cut and pressed-looking type. I soon noticed I was standing next to the only black person in the place, a guy about my age. I noticed him because a few loud girls from the group were yelling "Carlton, hey Carlton, Carlton!" in his direction.

He looked at them in disbelief. He wasn't responding like that was his name, and he didn't seem amused. It can be easy to walk into a situation and misconstrue what is going on, and I hope that is what I did. I think part of my brain wanted to think I was mistaken (so I didn't have to do anything about it), but there was a feeling in my gut it was wrong. Even if I am wrong it makes an interesting case of stereotyping. I believe they were calling out "Carlton" in his direction, mocking him and a popular character from a television show, "The Fresh Prince of Bel Air." I have seen the TV show, and this guy didn't even look like the actor who plays Carlton.

In fact, he was wearing nice clothing, similar to the type of clothing the group was wearing. I guess this fact alone made the association in these girls' brains, which was spilled by their mouths. If they were just making a stupid joke, his discomfort would have been enough to end it, yet they didn't seem to care how they were making him feel. Maybe if he were tall and wearing athletic clothing they would have yelled, "Michael Jordan," or his popular hip-hop style screamed, "Puff Daddy," or Rastafarian colors hailed him "Bob Marley."

Coming from a multiracial family and growing up in California, I can hardly imagine the sheltered environments that produce people who only associate black people to people on television or popular culture. I don't need to observe scenes like this to know they exist. It would take many more pages to discuss why this is, and why I didn't do anything about it as it happened. I hope people will take some time out to reflect on why and to broaden their knowledge of culture this Black History Month. Maybe some day we will not need a Black History Month to make real people and their histories visible.

Rebecca Howald is an environmental horticulture science senior.

Vikes' Smith retires at top of his game

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Once again, Robert Smith has eluded his pursuers.

The agent for the 28-year-old running back confirmed Wednesday that Smith is retiring after eight seasons with the Minnesota Vikings. He is leaving the NFL at the top of his game, much like a 31-year-old Barry Sanders before the 1999 season, and at the height of his earning power as an unrestricted free agent.

Smith, who announced his decision in a brief statement Tuesday to The (Cleveland) Plain Dealer, let his reasons for leaving remain a mystery. In the statement, Smith thanked his family and friends, fans and the Vikings organization.

"I also wanted to thank my teammates and coaches for believing in me throughout my career," he said.

The retirement leaves a large hole in the Vikings' offense.

"Robert has always been a guy that the National Football League has been able to count on as a shining example of quality character off the field and 100 percent effort on the field," coach Dennis Green said in a statement.

"Robert's decision to retire, as everyone knows, comes off his best season ever as a running back for the Minnesota Vikings. He leaves the game on top and is looking forward to his next challenge."

Smith's agent, Neil Cornrich, dismissed the idea that the often-injured back, who recently underwent a third knee operation, was tired of the pounding.

"He could easily play five more

years without jeopardizing his health," Cornrich said. "He just decided to go in another direction at this point."

That direction is uncertain, although Smith has said he might consider a career as a medical researcher. He pursued a history degree with a strong emphasis on science at Ohio State and is interested in a variety of topics such as calculus, molecular genetics and classical music.

Earlier this season, he said he thought he would be in medical school by now.

"I enjoy football more than I thought I would," Smith told the Saint Paul Pioneer Press. "I honestly didn't think I would play as long as I have. But once you're out there and enjoying it, it's completely different."

Smith, the Vikings' first-round pick in 1993, led the NFC by rushing last season with 1,521 yards in his first complete 16-game season. He broke the organization's career rushing record held by Chuck Foreman, with 6,818 yards.

He rushed for 32 touchdowns and averaged 4.8 yards per carry during his career despite battling a number of injuries and health problems, such as injuries to both knees and ankles and a serious case of chicken pox.

Along with Cincinnati's Corey

Dillon, he was considered the NFL's most desired free-agent running back and was expected to sign a contract that would have exceeded his last five-year, \$25 million deal.

Cornrich said he had been optimistic that Smith, who had a good relationship with Green, would resign with the Vikings despite the organization's salary cap limitations and the lure of the open market. Cornrich said Smith wasn't concerned about walking away from a big free-agent payday.

"He would've had unlimited financial opportunities," Cornrich said. "But this was not a financial decision."

Smith was deeply disappointed, however, by the Vikings' 41-0 loss to the New York Giants in the NFC championship game and by the final two months of his season, in which he rushed for only 248 yards in five games.

He was selected to the Pro Bowl but did not play because of knee surgery.

The Vikings had made re-signing Smith a top priority, though they are expected to have to cut about \$20 million to meet the 2001 salary cap limit.

Smith's backup, Moe Williams, rushed for only 67 yards last season. The Vikings could use the money they had planned to spend on Smith on another top free-agent back.

"He would've had unlimited financial opportunities, but this was not a financial decision."

Neil Cornrich
Robert Smith's agent

Seminoles land 25 prospects

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — At age 71, Florida State coach Bobby Bowden still has the touch on the recruiting trail.

Faced with the biggest single-season loss of talent at Florida State in 15 years, Bowden signed 25 prospects Wednesday, led by Parade Magazine and USA Today player of the year Joe Mauer, a quarterback from St. Paul, Minn.

The Seminole also signed quarterbacks Matt Crenshaw of Brentwood, Tenn., and Adrian McPherson of Bradenton, Fla., a two-sport star who also wants to play basketball for the Seminole.

While he did sign players from as far away as California and Minnesota, Bowden stayed close to home for the most part, signing 16 players from Florida, including three from Tallahassee.

The new Seminole included Willie Jones Jr., a linebacker from Miami and son of Willie Jones, who played on Bowden's first three Florida State teams.

"It's a big mismatch, those 40-year-old coaches talking to 17-year-olds," laughed Bowden, who is faced annually with talk he won't be coaching much longer.

"I tell them I want to be here in four years. And I do, but I'm not God and I know that might not be up to me. I do know that about two bad years and ol' Bowden, he'll be out."

The 6-4, 205-pound Mauer erased most of the passing records at St. Paul Cretin-Derham High School established by Florida State Heisman Trophy winner Chris Weinke.

SEASON

continued from page 10

aware of its existence. Lacrosse is far more popular on the East Coast, where universities compete in official, school-sponsored leagues and scholarships are given out.

Lacrosse teams on the West Coast compete as collegiate clubs, gaining their funding through alumni donations, dues and fund-raisers.

Despite its Eastern prominence, said Bussell, the sport is gaining popularity out West.

"People on the West Coast are starting to realize what an exciting, fast-paced sport it is," he said.

Whitaker said fan support has been great in recent years, and Saturday's game against UCLA was no exception.

"Our fan support has been awesome," he said. "In lacrosse, heckling is big for the home crowd and our fans really give it to the other team."

In addition to UCLA, Cal Poly will play teams including UC Santa Barbara, Sonoma State and UC Berkeley in the Western Collegiate Lacrosse League. The league champion will travel to Texas on April 21 for the National Club Championships.

Despite some tough games on the horizon, most notably against Sonoma State and UC Berkeley, Whitaker said he feels the team should be able to compete with the best.

"We can match up player-to-player with everyone," he said. "We should definitely give them a game."

The Men's Lacrosse team next plays UC Santa Barbara this Saturday at 1 p.m. at the Sports Complex.

Tiger reveals what's been holding him back

SAN DIEGO (AP) — The real reason for what's been holding back Tiger Woods was finally revealed Wednesday.

It's the hair. He dyed it blond over the holidays and hasn't won since.

That's all of three tournaments. "Maybe I need to dye it back," said Woods, who might be the last person concerned that it's already February and he still doesn't have a victory in 2001.

His hair color is back to normal. He looks like the same player who won three straight majors and nine out of the 20 PGA Tour events he played last year. The only difference is the record, which is tough to top.

A year ago, Woods came to the Buick Invitational having won six straight PGA Tour events, the longest streak in 52 years. Now, he has gone six straight tour events without winning and everyone wants to know what's happened to him.

"What's happened is that he's still the best player in the world," said Davis Love III, who finally broke out of a real slump — 0-for-62 — last week at Pebble Beach. "He's in an unenviable position that when he doesn't win he gets more questions."

"I've gotten a lot of questions in the last two years. He's gotten that many in the last two months."

The "slump" has two versions.

True, Woods hasn't won on the PGA Tour since Sept. 10 in the Canadian Open, where he hit that 6-iron from 218 yards out of a bunker,

over the water and right at a pin that was best left alone.

Woods keeps his own record. "I guess the Grand Slam doesn't count," he said. That was the four-man, 36-hole tournament in Hawaii the week before Thanksgiving when Woods made eagle on the 18th hole to force a playoff with Vijay Singh, then another eagle on the first extra hole to win.

"I guess the European tour doesn't count," said Woods, referring to his three-stroke victory in the Johnnie Walker Classic in Thailand the week after Valderrama.

"I haven't won in three tournaments," he said. "That's not a slump, not like some of these people think it is. If I can go three tournaments and people call it a slump, then I've actually played some pretty good golf."

Woods has himself to blame for that.

He raised the expectations with one of the greatest years ever in sports. Along with his nine victories and three straight majors, he never went more than three PGA Tour events without winning, and only three times finished lower than fifth.

"It's not like I'm missing cuts," Woods said. "I'm right there. My worst finish has been 13th. That's terrible, isn't it?"

But the one thing Woods has failed to do in three tournaments this year is contend on Sunday. He was six strokes back and never a factor in the Mercedes Championships, and his tie

for fifth in Phoenix left him 15 strokes behind, his largest deficit in two years.

And he made three straight bogeys on the front nine of Pebble Beach — the same nine that Love played in 8-under 28 — to wash out any thought of another comeback.

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Extended Education Program

LACROSSE

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tougher game, especially since they have the home advantage."

This is the first year Cal Poly has had two women's lacrosse teams. The Div. II lacrosse team also won its first game last weekend, beating UCSB, 9-7. The second team was formed because there was such a large turnout for lacrosse this year, Loeffler said.

That team will play Pomona College and Northern Arizona University next weekend. Both games will be played at Pomona.

This year's team is a 100 percent improvement from last year's team, Kiersted said.

"I'm really excited about this year," she said. "We're looking awesome."

Kiersted and Badgley said the improvement is a result of the returning players' hard work and the team's new members, many of whom played lacrosse in high school.

"We got lucky," Badgley said. "We got a lot of new skill coming in. Put that together with all the girls from last year, and you've got a championship team."

The team will play ten league games and two non-league games this season, as well as compete in two tournaments. When the season ends in May, the top two teams from the

Southern League go on to the Final Four to play the top two teams in the Northern League. Kiersted and Loeffler believe the team is already in a good position to go to the Final Four.

"I think we're going to win (the) Final Four," Badgley said. "I don't think there's a team out there that can beat us."

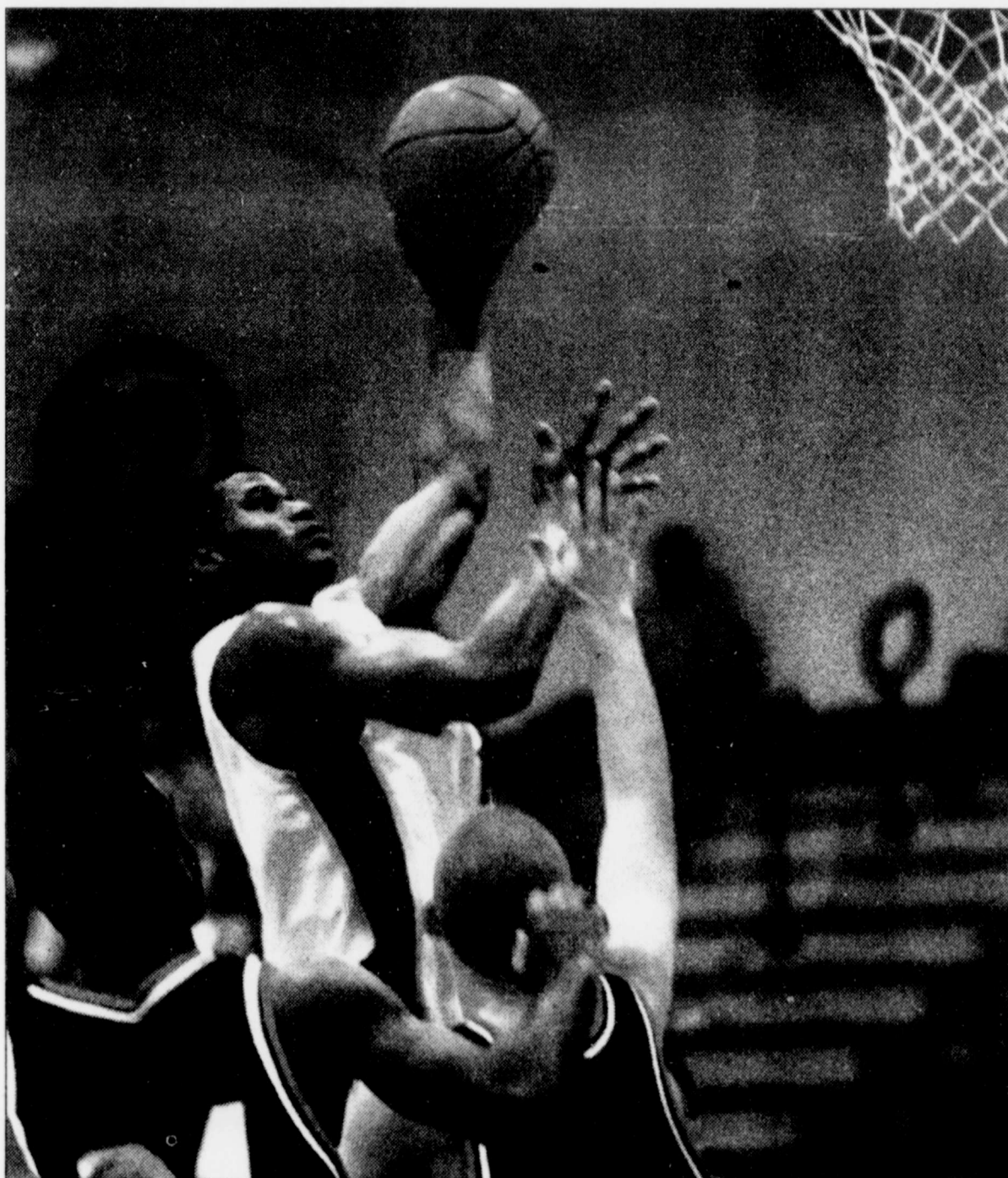
The lacrosse team is a club team that was formed in 1991. Since they are not a NCAA team, members must take care of scheduling games themselves, as well as raising funds for transportation and lodging.

This year, the team practices in the new Sports Complex. This is an improvement from last year, Badgley said, when club teams had to practice on whichever field they could find.

"Sometimes the fields would be rained out and muddy," he said. "Sometimes by the time the fields were free, it was too dark to practice. The Sports Complex is huge, and it's a very nice field. Having the right facilities to practice in helps the team become even better."

Badgley said he continues to be impressed with the team's progress.

"How hard the team has been working is incredible," he said. "These girls are practicing every single day, they're putting in the work. This is the best team we've ever had."



Forward James Grace III glides through the lane to the basket in a game earlier this season. To upset the 49ers, Cal Poly will need a strong contribution from Grace and the rest of its bench. Grace is averaging 2.5 points and 1.6 rebounds per game.

COLLIN HESTER/MUSTANG DAILY

STERLING

continued from page 12

Poly. Keep yelling – they'll need to feed off you to pull out the win.

Even if the game is winding down and looking out of hand, stay in your seats. Earlier this season, I'm sure that Maryland thought that its game with Duke was firmly in hand, but the Terrapins blew a 10-point lead in the final minute and lost the game to the Blue Devils in overtime.

When Cal Poly wins, there's one thing that's necessary – storming the

court. When that final buzzer sounds and the Mustangs are victorious, sprint down to the court and celebrate. Congratulate Cal Poly on its biggest win in its short time in Division I basketball.

A focused, poised Mustang team can upset Long Beach and bring us one step closer to the Big West Tournament in Anaheim.

Matt Sterling is the sports editor of Mustang Daily. E-mail him with comments at mrsterli@calpoly.edu.

BASKETBALL

continued from page 12

Cal Poly head coach Kevin Bromley is more concerned about the potential benefits in terms of self-assurance that a victory over Long Beach State might bring the team.

"When you just won one on the road and then you win another one, it's a reassurance that that wasn't just a flash in the pan and you are building and the team is getting better," he said.

The game is given additional interest by the fact that it will be the second time in Cal Poly history that a Division I basketball game will be broadcast on regional cable television. In the 1998-

99 season, the Mustangs played a game at Mott Gym against the University of Idaho, which was broadcast on ESPN 2. The Mustangs were soundly defeated 101-75.

Bjorklund said that the loss won't be forgotten come tip-off on Thursday.

"At the ESPN game, we didn't play nearly the way we wanted to play," he said. "I think that coming into another TV game you want to prove to the people that that's not how we really play."

The Mustangs will have to prove themselves against a Long Beach State team that, despite two consecutive losses, is very solid and features one of the best guards in the Big West in Ramel "Rock" Lloyd. Lloyd leads the

49ers in points per game with 18.5 and ranks second in the conference behind Bjorklund.

Bromley said that controlling Lloyd will be a key for the Mustangs, and he plans to enlist freshman Jamaal Scott to stop him.

"You've got senior versus freshman, so you lack some experience there," he said. "Jamaal will rise to the occasion. He's strong enough, athletic enough and fast enough to keep Rock in front of him."

Bjorklund said he believes that effort will be the determining factor in the game for the Mustangs.

"I think we will come out victorious just because of how hard we're going to play on Thursday night," he said.

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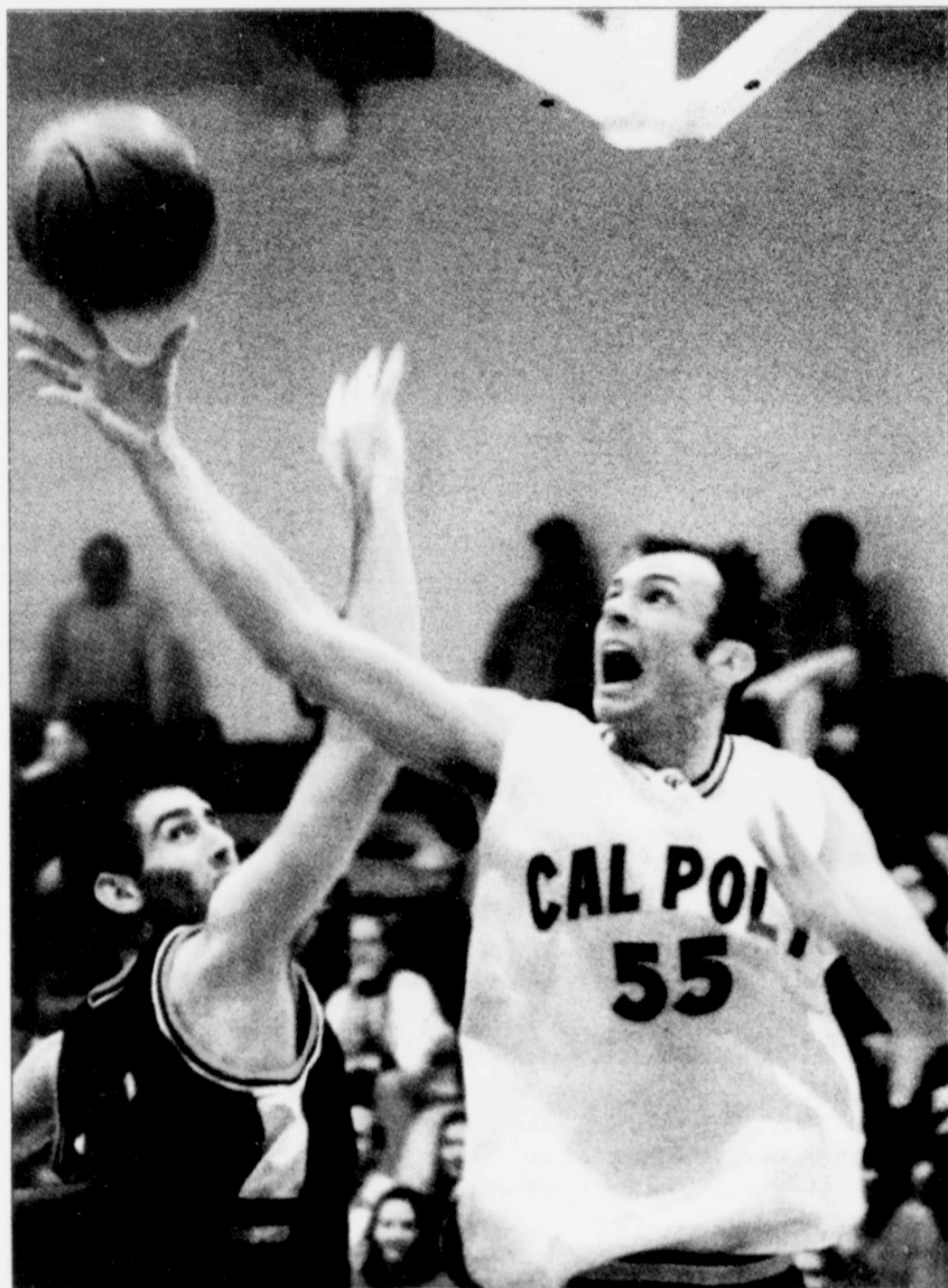
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Center Chris Bjorklund, shown here in a game against Fullerton earlier this season, is averaging 19.3 points per game, which leads the Big West.

AARON LAMBERT/MUSTANG DAILY

Mustangs ready for TV spotlight

By Jon Hughes
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Normally, a win over a team with a 4-16 record wouldn't be cause for too much optimism, but with the way the season has gone for the Cal Poly men's basketball team, any success is something to build on.

The team now looks to take the momentum of last Saturday's 82-79 overtime victory at the University of Idaho into its game Thursday against Long Beach State, a team currently tied for third in the Big West.

Adding significance to the game is the fact that it will be broadcast live on television from Mott Gym on Fox Sports West 2, the second Cal Poly home game in three years to be broadcast on a major cable network.

Despite the team's struggles, there is no shortage of confidence among the Mustangs.

"People are looking at our record thinking, 'Wow, 1-7, they can't be too good,'" forward Chris Bjorklund said. "But I think once they see us on TV, they'll realize how hard we play and how good we really can be."

when: Thursday, Feb. 8, 7:30 p.m.
where: Mott Gym
television: Fox Sports West 2

Long Beach Probable Starters
F Grant Stone 6-foot-8 senior
F Lemi Williams 6-foot-6 junior
C Travis Reed 6-foot-8 junior
G Ron Johnson 6-foot junior
G Ramel Lloyd 6-foot-4 senior

Cal Poly Probable Starters
F Jeremiah Mayes 6-foot-8 senior
F Brandon Beeson 6-foot-6 junior
C Chris Bjorklund 6-foot-8 senior
G Jamaal Scott 6-foot-5 freshman
G Watende Favors 6-foot-2 senior

see BASKETBALL, page 11

Poly primed to upset Long Beach

My eternal optimism for the men's basketball team was wearing pretty thin, but was strengthened by the overtime win against Idaho last Saturday. Now Cal Poly has momentum as Long Beach State comes rolling into Mott, and the Mustangs have a chance for an upset in the biggest game of the season on television.

Cal Poly isn't used to being on television, so some tips are necessary for the 3,000 or so fans that will pack Mott Gym at 5:30 tonight.

First of all, get loud – the louder, the better. When Long Beach is on offense or shooting free

Matt Sterling

throws, yell as loud as possible. Anything you can do to break the shooter's concentration will do – say something about his hair or perhaps the fact he looks like Webster.

When Jamaal Scott, Jeremiah Mayes or any Cal Poly player throws down with a dunk, Mott should erupt. When an opposing player misses a dunk (like Jerry Green of UC Irvine earlier this season), boo him out of the building. Never let him forget it. Every time he touches the ball, yell something about the missed dunk. Same thing goes for any airball. If their shot can't hit the rim, they should get out of our gym.

The 49ers are reeling, so there hasn't been a better time for an upset. Both of its games were on television last week, and they lost both. UCSB and UC Irvine came into Long Beach and upset them on their home court. Cal Poly can't let Long Beach come in here and do the same.

Long Beach's best player, Ramel "Rock" Lloyd, is coming off a dismal 10-point game against Irvine, and for Cal Poly to win, Lloyd must be kept in check. The whole team needs to play defense like Michael Burris, who defends his opponent so close he almost becomes their jersey. This suffocating defense is necessary for the upset.

Fans must also remember to stay for the whole game. Studying for midterms can wait. If Long Beach jumps out to a big lead, stay with Cal

see STERLING, page 11

Men's lacrosse hyped for season

By Jon Hughes
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

A team at Cal Poly is generating a positive buzz after a victory over a major university on opening day. This time, however, it's not the baseball team.

The men's lacrosse team scored a big win Saturday by beating UCLA 9-8, which avenged last season's 16-4 beating at the hands of the Bruins and has brought excitement about the team's prospects this year.

"This is the best team we've ever had at Poly," said Sean Whitaker, a midfielder and co-captain of the squad. "We have a legitimate shot at great-

ness."

Long-stick midfielder Caleb Bussell said that the consistency and overall quality of the players on the team are strengths to this year's squad.

"We don't really have any weak points and we have a lot of depth," he said. "We're an aggressive team, always selling out and leaving everything on the field."

The Mustangs benefit from the recent opening of the Sports Complex, where all of the team's home games will be held. In past years, the availability of fields has been an issue, often forcing the games to be held at different locations scattered throughout the Cal Poly campus.

Despite the team's more than 15 years at Cal Poly, many are hardly

see SEASON, page 11

Women's lacrosse can smell postseason

By Evann Gastaldo
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

After winning the first two games of the season, the women's lacrosse team is halfway to a possible bid for the national tournament.

The Division I team beat UC San Diego 19-4 last Saturday and UC Santa Barbara 13-4 on Sunday. If the team can defeat the University of Arizona this weekend, they are almost guaranteed to win the bid, said team president and captain Suzanne Loeffler, an industrial engineering senior.

The top eight club teams in the nation, one from each section of the country, compete at the national tournament, said head coach and aeronautical engineering senior Brandon Badgley. At the end of February, the team with the highest record from each section wins a bid.

A section may be given multiple bids or none at all, and this is the first year that a team from the West Coast section will be given a bid.

"If we win this weekend, we're pretty much that team, especially since we won the first two games by such a large gap," Badgley said.

► The team faces the University of Arizona on Saturday.

► The team has enough players to field two teams.

The Mustangs will travel to Arizona this weekend to play against the University of Arizona.

"Arizona is a good team," said team co-president Ashley Kiersted, a kinesiology junior. "They were a really tough team last year. This will be a

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Sports Trivia

Yesterday's Answer:

Anne Meyers is the woman who signed a contract with the Indiana Pacers.

Congrats Caroline Rowles!

Today's Question:

Who holds the NBA playoff record for most points scored in a game?

Please submit sports trivia answer to: mrsterli@calpoly.edu. Please include your name. The first correct answer received via e-mail will be printed in the next issue of the paper.

Schedule

TONIGHT

- Men's basketball vs. Long Beach State
- at Mott Gym • 5:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

- Baseball vs. Pepperdine
- at Baggett Stadium • 5 p.m.
- Women's basketball vs. UCSB
- at Mott Gym • 7 p.m.
- Wrestling vs. Mantako State
- at Stanford • 5:30 p.m.
- Women's tennis vs. Riverside
- at Riverside • 2:00 p.m.

SATURDAY

- Men's basketball vs. UCSB
- at UCSB • 7 p.m.

Schedule

SATURDAY

- Wrestling vs. Stanford
- at Stanford • 7:00 p.m.
- Baseball vs. Missouri
- at Baggett Stadium • 5:00 p.m.
- Softball vs. Fresno State
- at Bob Janssen Field • 12:00/2:00 p.m.
- Women's tennis vs. UC Irvine
- at Irvine • 1:30 p.m.

SUNDAY

- Baseball vs. San Jose State
- at Baggett Stadium • 1:00 p.m.
- Women's tennis vs. UC Irvine
- at Long Beach • 1:30 p.m.